

advanced legislation to strengthen the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We are also building an improved, market-based system to help restore our fisheries and keep our commercial and rec-

reational fishing industries strong. Working with Congress and State Governors, my administration looks forward to building on these initiatives assisted by the work of the Commission.

Message to the Congress on Termination of the National Emergency With Respect to Libya *September 20, 2004*

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b)(IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the “order”) that terminates the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12543 of January 7, 1986, and revokes that Executive Order, Executive Order 12544 of January 8, 1986, Executive Order 12801 of April 15, 1992, and Executive Order 12538 of November 15, 1985. I have determined that the situation that gave rise to this national emergency has been significantly altered by Libya’s commitments and actions to eliminate its weapons of mass destruction programs and its Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)-class missiles, and by other developments.

Executive Order 12543 of January 7, 1986, imposed sanctions on Libya in response to policies and actions of the Government of Libya that constituted an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Those sanctions were modified in Executive Order 12544 of January 8, 1986, Executive Order 12801 of April 15, 1992, and supplemented Executive Order 12538 of November 15, 1985.

Based on Libya’s recent commitments and actions to implement its December 19, 2003, commitment to eliminate its weapons of mass destruction programs and its MTCR-class missiles, and other develop-

ments, I have determined that the situation that gave rise to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12543 has been significantly altered. My order, therefore, terminates that national emergency with respect to Libya and revokes Executive Orders 12543, 12544, and 12801, and lifts the trade, commercial, and travel sanctions imposed against Libya based on that national emergency. The order also revokes Executive Order 12538, which blocked the import of petroleum products refined in Libya into the United States.

While the order formally lifts sanctions under the national emergency with respect to Libya, it will not lift a wide variety of other sanctions imposed on Libya due to its designation as a state sponsor of terrorism under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act (restriction on foreign assistance), section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (restriction on arms exports), and section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (restriction on exports of certain items on the Commodity Control List), as well as other statutory restrictions applicable to Libya.

I have enclosed a copy of the order, which is effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 21, 2004.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
September 20, 2004.

NOTE: The Executive order is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at a Rally in New York City September 20, 2004

The President. Thank you all for coming. *Audience members.* Viva Bush! Viva Bush! Viva Bush!

The President. Thank you all. Thanks for coming. Thank you all for coming. So I said to Pataki, try introducing me at the convention. If it works out well, you can introduce me here tonight. [Laughter] He gave a great introduction at the convention, for which I am grateful. And I appreciate his leadership, and I appreciate his friendship.

I also appreciate the friendship of Rudy. I had the privilege of traveling with Rudy in New Mexico. They've even heard of him there. [Laughter] And he did a great job. It was a lot of fun. Thanks for coming.

So when I asked Laura to marry me, she said, "Fine, just so long as I never have to give a speech." [Laughter] I said, "Well, okay, you'll never have to give a speech." Fortunately, she didn't hold me to that promise. The American people got to see a compassionate, strong, kind person.

I want to thank—I also want to thank Libby and Emily Pataki for joining us, and Judith Giuliani for joining us as well. I wish Howard Mills all the best in his race for the United States Senate. I want to thank Lew Eisenberg for his hard work to make this event successful. I want to thank Al Hoffman for his hard work. I want to thank my friend Mercer Reynolds, Sandy Treadwell, Mike Long. Most of all, I want to thank you all for coming. Vito Fossella is here. Where is old Vito? Somewhere around here. He's a Congressman. He's a great guy.

Thanks for coming. My spirits are high. I'm honored you're here. I appreciate the

support we receive here in the great State of New York. And a couple of folks slid across the border from New Jersey and Connecticut as well. [Laughter] I'm proud you're here. I'm not much of a prognosticator, but things seem to be going awfully well in the three States I just mentioned. I'm enjoying myself on the campaign trail.

We've got a great country, and I love to get out amongst the people. Laura and I are traveling a lot. The crowds are huge. Enthusiasm is high. We're going to win in November.

Audience members. Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

The President. Thank you all. I'm ready for the stretch run. I know where I want to lead the country. I look forward to telling the people what I believe. I believe that schools can do a better job of teaching our children. Listen, I went to Washington to challenge this practice of just shuffling kids through schools year after year, grade after grade. It's what I call challenging the soft bigotry of low expectations.

We've raised the bar. We've increased funding. But in return, we're now saying, "Why don't you measure early so we can correct problems early, before they're too late." And the achievement gap in America is closing, and we're not going to turn around. We're not going to go backwards. We're going to stay on this path to excellence for every child, *por cada nino, por cada nino*.

I went to Washington to fix problems. I believed that we needed to fix Medicare. You know, medicine has changed; Medicare hadn't. We would pay \$100,000 for heart surgery but not a dime for prescription